

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

9342-PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

To:
 BAILEY WALSH & CO
 5 York Place
 Leeds LS1 2SD
 UNITED KINGDOM

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

OR THE DECLARATION

FOR FURTHER ACTION

JD/MK/9129-GB

(PCT Rule 44.1)

International application No.

PCT/GB 03/ 02199

ACTION

International filing date /day

21/05/2003

Applicant's or agent's file reference

JD/MK/9129-GB

International application No.

PCT/GB 03/ 02199

Applicant

STEPPING STONES INVESTMENTS LTD

Date of mailing

(day/month/year)

17/09/2003

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraphs 1 and 4 below

International filing date

(day/month/year)

21/05/2003

1. The applicant is hereby notified that the International Search Report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the International Application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the International Search Report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
 34, chemin des Colombettes
 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
 Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2. The applicant is hereby notified that no International Search Report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3. With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.

no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after **18 months** from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau.

If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within **19 months** from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within **20 months** from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority
 European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Antonio Teixeira

17 SEP 2003

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference JD/MK/9129-GB	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/GB 03/02199	International filing date (day/month/year) 21/05/2003	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 03/07/2002
Applicant STEPPING STONES INVESTMENTS LTD		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 04 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :
 - contained in the international application in written form.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 - the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 - the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

- as suggested by the applicant.
- because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- because this figure better characterizes the invention.

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None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP 03/02199

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 B65C9/18 B65C1/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 B65C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00 30963 A (LOHMANN THERAPIE SYST LTS ; SCHUMANN KLAUS (DE); STEINBORN PETER (D) 2 June 2000 (2000-06-02) page 2, line 4 - line 12	1-3, 6
Y	page 4, line 21 - line 30; claims 1,2,8; figure 1 ---	4, 5
Y	US 2001/027845 A1 (TASMA GERALD WAYNE) 11 October 2001 (2001-10-11) paragraphs '0038!, '0049!; figures 1,9 ---	4
Y	US 3 880 692 A (JEFFRIES DALE) 29 April 1975 (1975-04-29) column 5, line 24 - line 35 column 5, line 64 -column 6, line 5; figures 1,5 ---	5
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

8 September 2003

17/09/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Wartenhorst, F

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB 03/02199

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 280 549 B1 (LANGAN JOSEPH W) 28 August 2001 (2001-08-28)	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/02199

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 0030963	A	02-06-2000	DE WO EP JP US	19853737 A1 0030963 A1 1131260 A1 2002530216 T 6571983 B1		31-05-2000 02-06-2000 12-09-2001 17-09-2002 03-06-2003
US 2001027845	A1	11-10-2001	US CA	2003047275 A1 2304944 A1		13-03-2003 12-10-2000
US 3880692	A	29-04-1975	CA DE FR GB JP	994291 A1 2363883 A1 2210981 A5 1459759 A 50047600 A		03-08-1976 20-06-1974 12-07-1974 31-12-1976 28-04-1975
US 6280549	B1	28-08-2001	US	6379790 B1		30-04-2002